

State of Alaska  
Department of Fish and Game  
Nomination for Waters  
Important to Anadromous Fish

ALASKA DEPT. OF  
FISH & GAME

MAR 17 1997

REGION II  
HABITAT AND RESTORATION  
DIVISION

AWC Volume SE ☒ SC ☐ SW ☐ W ☐ AR ☐ IN ☐ USGS Quad

SEWARD C-7

Anadromous Water Catalog Number of Waterway 247-60-10170-2036

Name of Waterway Silvertip Creek USGS name X Local name

Addition ☒ Deletion ☐ Correction ☐ Backup Information ☒

For Office Use

Nomination #	97 264	Regional Supervisor	12/5/97
Revision Year:	1997	Date	
Revision to:	Atlas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Catalog <input type="checkbox"/>	3/12/97	
	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Date	
Revision Code:	E-9 N/A	12/12/97	
		Drafted	Date

OBSERVATION INFORMATION

Species	Date(s) Observed	Spawning	Rearing	Present	Anadromous
Coho	Oct. 1988			19	X
King	Sept. 13 & 28, 1988,			2	X
King	July 26-27, 1984	10		4	X
Coho	Oct. 25, 1988			11	X

**IMPORTANT:** Provide all supporting documentation that this water body is important for the spawning, rearing or migration of anadromous fish, including: number of fish and life stages observed; sampling methods, sampling duration and area sampled; copies of field notes; etc. Attach a copy of a map showing location of mouth and observed upper extent of each species, as well as other information such as: specific stream reaches observed as spawning or rearing habitat; locations, types, and heights of any barriers; etc.

Comments: Attached old survey reports from USFS Seward Ranger district provide back-up information for inclusion of Silvertip Crk. in AWC. Copied from info provided to Stewart Seaberg on 7/8/96 by Mark Wenger, USFS. ADDITIONAL INFO FROM ADF&G HABITAT SURVEYS ALSO ATTACHED. ADD 30' BARRIER FALLS AT NOTED LOCATION.

Name of Observer (please print)

Edward W. Weiss

Date: 07/15/96

Signature:

Address:

333 Raspberry Road

Anchorage, AK 99518-1599

This certifies that in my best professional judgment and belief the above information is evidence that this waterbody should be included in or deleted from the Catalog of Waters Important for Spawning, Rearing or Migration of Anadromous Fishes per AS 16.05.870.

Signature of Area Biologist:

Revision 7/93

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DATE

REFERENCE SLIP

7/8/96

TO

Stuart

☐ ACTION

☐ NOTE AND RETURN

☐ APPROVAL

☐ PER PHONE CALL

☐ AS REQUESTED

☐ RECOMMENDATION

☐ FOR COMMENT

☐ REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF

☐ FOR INFORMATION

☐ RETURNED

☐ INITIALS

☐ SEE ME

☐ NOTE AND FILE

☐ YOUR SIGNATURE

REMARKS

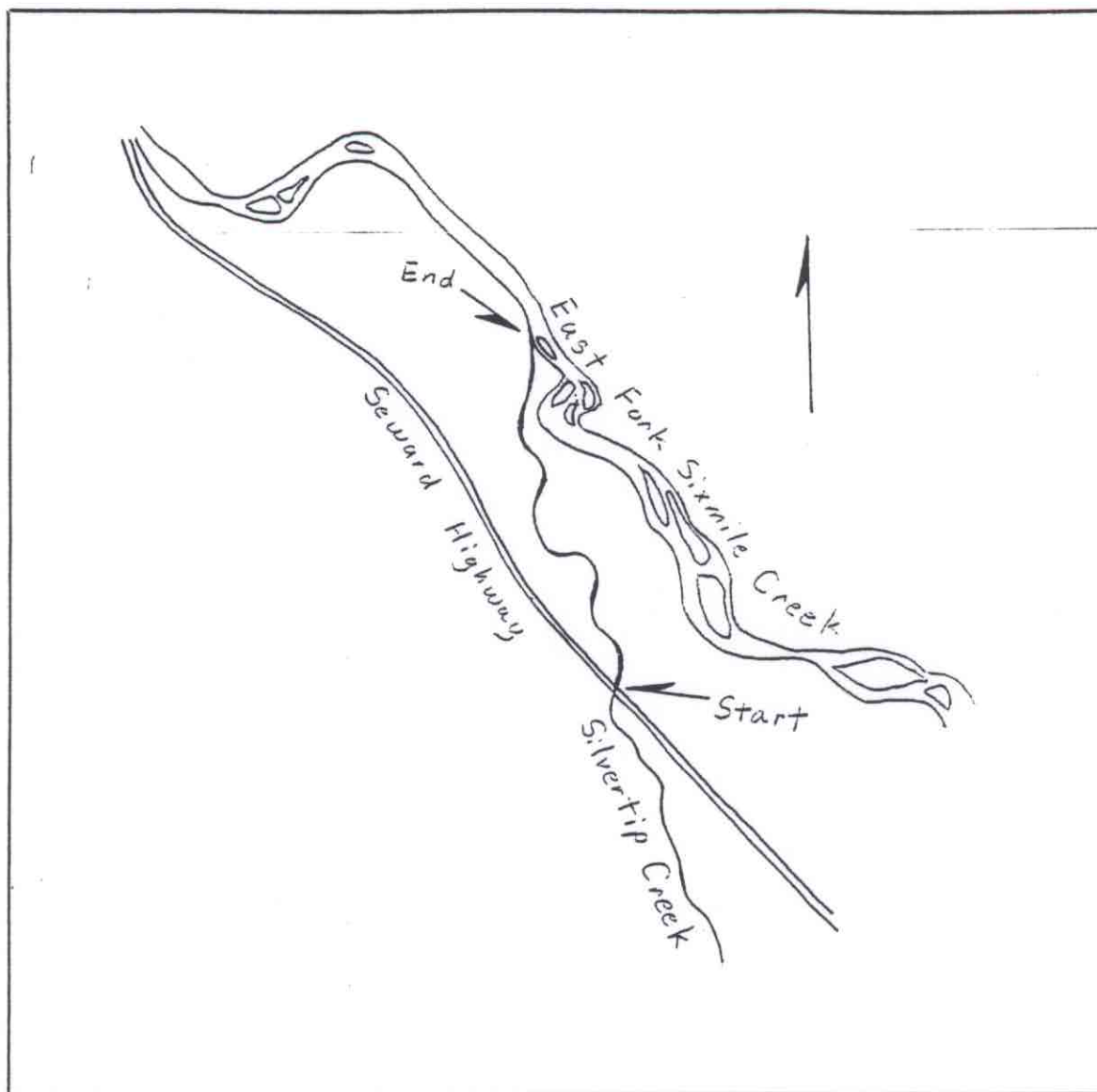
Didn't find much in our files on Silver Tip. All I could find are escapement counts in 1988 from highway bridge downstream. The 1984 memo indicates kings up to 3/4 mile upstream from mouth, which is probably above the bridge.

FROM

March

JUL 12 1996

REGION II  
HABITAT AND RESTORATION  
DIVISION



1988 Escapement Count Reach

## ADULT ESCAPEMENT SURVEY

LOCATION/CREEK Silver tip Creek DATE 9/13/88  
WEATHER Partly sunny light Rain last few days  
WATER CONDITIONS low clear  
VISABILITY good OBSERVERS Martin  
SPECIES King ALIVE 2 DEAD 1  
SPECIES Coho ALIVE 1 DEAD 1  
SPECIES \_\_\_\_\_ ALIVE \_\_\_\_\_ DEAD \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: looks like good spawning habitat in lower  $\frac{1}{2}$  of stream. Due to cover and depth of some pools it is possible some fish were missed.

# ADULT ESCAPEMENT SURVEY

LOCATION/CREEK Silvertip DATE 9/29

WEATHER Sunny

WATER CONDITIONS low clear

VISABILITY Good OBSERVERS Winters

SPECIES Coho ALIVE 0 DEAD 0

SPECIES King ALIVE 0 DEAD 1

SPECIES  ALIVE  DEAD

COMMENTS:

## ADULT ESCAPEMENT SURVEY

LOCATION/CREEK Silvertop Creek DATE 10/1/88WEATHER Light SnowWATER CONDITIONS ClearVISABILITY Bad Fin - (Glare is a problem) OBSERVERS Martin WinterSPECIES Cole ALIVE 19 DEAD 0SPECIES                      ALIVE                      DEAD                     SPECIES                      ALIVE                      DEAD                     COMMENTS: Due to bad glare and instream cover  
Some fish were undoubtedly missed.

ADULT ESCAPEMENT SURVEY

LOCATION/CREEK Silvertip Creek DATE 10/25/88

WEATHER Light Snow

WATER CONDITIONS Clear - frozen ice in middle areas

VISABILITY Good OBSERVERS Martin

SPECIES coho ALIVE 11 DEAD 0

SPECIES    ALIVE    DEAD   

SPECIES    ALIVE    DEAD   

COMMENTS:



Reply to: 2630 Fisheries Habitat

Date: 14 March 1985

Subject: Silvertip Creek Fisheries Habitat Assessment for the Alaska Department of Fish & Game King Salmon Smolt Stocking Proposal in Sixmile Creek

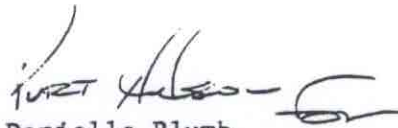
To: District Biologist, Anchorage

On 7 August 1984 Silvertip Creek was looked at by Bill Hauser, Loren Flagg, Kurt Nelson, and myself for an adult king salmon weir and egg-take site (Figure 1). The mouth of the Silvertip was found to be suitable location for a temporary weir and holding pen. This conclusion is based upon the following observations.

Fifty feet upstream from the confluence with Sixmile there is a large pool, 20'x100'x2.5'. that could hold adult kings. Substrate consists mostly of cobble, large gravel, and sand with a small percentage of small gravel and fines. On the south east side there is a 4 to 5 foot high stable bank. Spruce, willow, and tall grass cover on the bank provide stabilization and shade. On the north east side of the pool is a large gravel bar (150'x200') that separates the pool from Sixmile Creek. It appears that during high water Sixmile breaches this gravel bar and flows into the pool. Some modification of the pool is necessary. At the downstream end of the pool there is a shallow riffle, 0.4 ft. deep, that would need a channel dug approximately 10 ft. long to allow adult passage upstream. This could be done with hand tools in a few hours.

Minnow trapping in May, July and August (six traps set in each month for a 24 hr period) throughout Silvertip Creek resulted in a total catch of six juvenile Coho. This is surprising because on 30 May 1984, fifty-thousand coho fry were stocked approximately 0.5 miles upstream from the mouth. As of 26 July 1984 these hatchery coho were not observed in Silvertip Creek. On July 26 and 27, 1984, five pairs and four single adult king salmon were observed in Silvertip Creek from the mouth upstream 3/4 mile.

Access to the potential site is through a previous moose habitat burn unit. A trail approximately one half mile long could be built using a chainsaw and a crew of two people working for a day. The use of a temporary or seasonal weir that could be easily installed and stored onsite would be best for this location.

  
Danielle Plumb  
Biological Technician



# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

*Habitat and Restoration Division*

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

333 Raspberry Road  
Anchorage, AK 99518-1599  
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### MEMORANDUM

TO: Ed Weiss  
Habitat Biologist  
Region II  
Habitat And Restoration Division  
Department of Fish and Game

FROM: Doug Hill *DWH*  
Fish and Game Technician  
Habitat and Restoration Division

DATE: October 2, 1996

SUBJECT: Silvertip Creek (Stream No. 247-60-10170-2036) : Search for barrier to upstream fish migration and, branded fish survival test. Located physical barrier to upstream fish passage.

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#### **September 13, 1996**

0511 hrs - Depart Anchorage.

0630 hrs - Arrive Silvertip Creek.

0650 hrs - Checked minnow trap in which Ed Weiss and I placed 4 branded king salmon fry (60 - 65 mm) and 4 non-branded king salmon fry (60 - 65 mm). Observed no mortalities. This trap, with fish inside and entry ports pinched, was placed in a very slow moving portion of the creek (approximately 70 yds above the beaver dam) at 1330 hrs. on 9/12/96. The objective was to see if the branded fish survived the night. All eight fish were active; no mortalities.

0715 hrs - Walking upstream from the highway I set out to locate the upstream limit of fish migration on Silvertip Creek. Approximately 1 stream mile upstream of the highway an old log bridge crosses the creek. Within a quarter of a mile below the bridge I

observed the following mining related items: 2'x3'x3' metal box with lid, water pump hose, aluminum sluiceway sections, portable dredge with hose and pump, gas cans with gas, shovels, rakes, neoprene, 30 gallon garbage can, dilapidated tent frame (once covered with visquine), and alders and spruce cut. Within 100 yards above the bridge I observed the following items: aluminum sluiceway, miscellaneous hand tools, tarped over excavation pocket in bank used as storage shed, pop and beer being kept cool in stream, stream channel diverted for approximately 50 to 80 yds. in three separate locations.

0755 hrs - I located an approximately 30' high vertical bedrock waterfall which is definitely a barrier to fish migration. This waterfall is approximately 1.5 - 1.75 miles upstream of the Seward Highway and approximately .5 miles upstream of the log bridge mentioned previously in this memo. I observed eight 6-8" yellow/gold colored fish approximately 50 yds. below the barrier falls. I was unable to get a positive ID on these fish.

I followed a miners trail on the east bank to the mining road and walked the mining road back to the Seward Highway.

0825 hrs - Depart Silvertip for Anchorage.

1000 hrs - Arrived at Anchorage ADF&G office.

#### SUMMARY

No adult anadromous fish were observed .

6 - Approximately 8" yellow/gold colored fish were observed approximately 50 yds. below the barrier falls. I had no traps or mean of capturing these fish.

Hence, I was unable to make a species identification.

cc: Stewart Seaburg  
File

Silvertip Creek: Search for barrier to upstream fish migration.  
Survey date → 9/13/96

Approximate Location of Log bridge  
Approximate Location of fish migration barrier (230' high falls)

NO barrier symbol 30' falls  
247-60-10170-2036

